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Dodd Shows Anybody Can Buy Mortars

Enough armament to mount a guerrilla attack was bought over the counter in the past few days by a government investigator, Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, Connecticut Democrat, said here yesterday in a talk at a Kiwanis luncheon in the Hotel Lexington.

Dodd said the agent purchased one 81-mm. Russian mortar, one 60-mm. Finnish mortar, one 2.36-inch bazooka, and a rifle with a grenade launcher, among other things.

"While all of the heavy ammunition was designated as 'inert,' we have been told by ordnance experts that these items could be made operable," Dodd said.



Sen. Thomas
J. Dodd

Sponsors Bill

Dodd, who is sponsor of a bill that would restrict the mail-order sales of weapons and control importation of foreign surplus arms, declared:

"I cite this case today to indicate the ease with which anyone in this country, no matter what his background, motives, affiliations or intentions, can purchase weapons which were designed for the mass destruction of human beings."

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